

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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REGGAE MUSIC CEO SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS FOR TRAFFICKING IN MARIJUANA

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that HORATIO HAMILTON, a/k/a "Tony Dumars," a/k/a "Desmond Hamilton," a/k/a "Romie Robertson" was sentenced today in Manhattan federal court to 25 years (300 months) in prison and 10 years supervised release for conspiring to traffic in over a ton of marijuana a week for approximately seven years. He was also ordered to forfeit \$10 million and a house in Encino, California.

HAMILTON was convicted after trial in January 2006. In its verdict, the jury rejected HAMILTON's argument that he withdrew from the marijuana-trafficking business after his arrest in 1999 at Los Angeles International Airport with nearly two tons of marijuana. At that time, the evidence revealed, HAMILTON jumped bail, adopted a new alias, and continued to operate his marijuana-trafficking business. HAMILTON and his co-conspirators, evidence at trial showed, were responsible for shipping over a ton of marijuana a week from Los Angeles to the New York area, beginning in 1997, until HAMILTON's arrest in January 2005.

According to the trial evidence, HAMILTON is the President and C.E.O. of L.O.Y. ("Lords of Yard"), Inc., a production company specializing in reggae music, which participated in the production of "Chi-Chi Man," the hit song by the reggae group T.O.K. HAMILTON is also the creator and producer of Sashi, an annual three-day reggae concert event in Jamaica.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts and cooperation of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Assistant United States Attorneys ELIZABETH CARPENTER, JACOB BUCHDAHL and CHRISTINA BISCHOFF are in charge of the

prosecution.

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